



THE CHANGE AGENT

Adult Education for
Social Justice: News,
Issues, and Ideas

CALL FOR ARTICLES

Theme: Voting and Advocacy

Voting is one of the most fundamental ways to participate in democracy. Even those who cannot vote can still participate in the political life of their community. Speaking up about issues that matter to you is an important part of civic life. We are interested in hearing from teachers and adult learners about their experiences with voting in recent elections, advocating to change public policy, and other forms of activism. The writings will be considered for a non-partisan edition on **Voting and Advocacy** that aims to provide adult educators and learners with re-useable materials that encourage activism, advocacy, and informed voting.

Questions for students and teachers to think about: (Please choose one question to write on.)

- Have you recently voted in an election? What motivated you to do so? Why vote?
- Have you ever been involved in calling, writing or visiting your elected representatives? What was the situation? How did you feel? What difference did it make?
- If you can't vote but you're politically active, tell us what you do to get involved in elections or support candidates or campaigns?
- Have you ever spoken up for something you believe in? What was it? What was your experience? What other channels (besides voting) have you used to make your voice heard?
- What do you think about the U.S. electoral system? Feel free to comment on any relevant elements, such as representative democracy, the electoral college, the two-party system, etc.
- Some people are not allowed to vote, such as those who are under 18, those who do not have citizenship, and (in some states) those who have committed felonies. What do you think about this?
- Teachers, are you organizing your students to vote or advocate for changes in the program, the community, the state, or the nation? Tell us what you are doing, what progress you're making, and how students are responding to these activities.
- Write to us about successful lessons you've used in your classroom on voting or advocacy. Send us a lesson plan or lesson description that other teachers could use.

All articles must be received by November 12, 2007.

Suggested length is 500-1,200 words. Final decisions are made by The Change Agent editorial board. We cannot print writing that criticizes or endorses any political candidate or party. A stipend of \$50 will be paid to each adult education student whose work is accepted for publication in this issue.



Please send material (preferably by email) to: Change Agent Editor, New England Literacy Resource Center/World Education, 44 Farnsworth St., Boston, MA 02210, Phone: 617-482-9485 fax: 617-482-0617 email: changeagent@worlded.org

The mission of *The Change Agent* is to provide news, issues, ideas, and other teaching resources that inspire and enable adult educators and learners to make civic participation and social justice concerns part of their teaching and learning. It is published by the New England Literacy Resource Center.

www.nelrc.org/changeagent